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REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 1 and 3-22 are allowed and claim 25 is allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1 and 3-22 remain pending in the instant application. Claims 23 – 25 are hereby cancelled without prejudice. Entry of this amendment and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jeddelloh (US 5,862,314 A) in view of Alexander et al. (US 6,189,111 B1) in view of Lewis (US 2003/0154392 A1) in further view of Finch et al. (US 5,592,616 A).

Claims 23-25 are hereby cancelled without prejudice, therefore, the rejections of claim 23 and 24 are now moot. Consequently, only allowed claims remain pending.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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